FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ITALY'S PRESIDENT PERTINI MAY VISIT IN APRIL

PY260008 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2241 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Rome, 24 Jan (DYN) -- Italian President Sandro Pertini today accepted an invitation to visit Argentina extended to him by roving ambassador Hipolito Solari Yirogoyen in the name of the Argentine Government. Pertini said that he would try to make the visit in April.

Solari Yrigoyen arrived here yesterday and met today with Pertini, to whom he delivered a letter from Argentine President Raul Alfonsin inviting him to visit Argentina. Sources at Quirinal Palace believe Pertini could travel to Argentina on 25 April, the day on which Italy commemorates the anniversary of its liberation from Nazism and fascism in 1945.

CAPUTO CONTINUES VATICAN EFFORTS ON BEAGLE

Meets Vatican State Secretary

PY251805 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1209 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Vatican City, 24 Jan (DYN) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo today reviewed with Vatican Secretary of State Agostino Casaroli the approach for starting the final stage of the negotiations between Argentina and Chile over the Beagle Channel dispute. Caputo met this morning with Casaroli and Papal Secretary for International Relations Achiles Silvestrini at the Vatican.

After the meeting, Caputo commented briefly, noting that "we only discussed the political setting for this new round of negotiations with Chile, within the mediation framework." The meeting, which took place in the Vatican library, lasted 40 minutes.

Caputo said that Casaroli regarded the relations between the Argentine Government and the Catholic Church as "very positive." In response to a question, Caputo denied that Casaroli had expressed concern over any point in particular when discussing these relations. Asked whether Casaroli had voiced any opinion or question concerning the draft bills on divorce submitted to the Argentine Congress, Caputo replied that this subject was not discussed during the meeting.

This afternoon Caputo will hold talks with Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi. This meeting will take place at the Chiggi Palace, the Italian prime minister's office.

It is also taken for granted that Caputo will meet with the members of the Argentine mission to the mediation, which is headed by Ricardo Etcheverry Boneo, during his stay at the Vatican, which will last until 26 January.

Comments on Mediation

PY251830 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1329 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Jan (TELAM) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo today termed the rumors regarding a possible Italian mediation in the Argentine-British conflict over the sovereignty of the Malvinas Islands as mere speculation without concrete grounds.

Caputo answered from Rome the enquiries made by the program"New Day," broadcast by Radio Mitre in this capital, and pointed out that the subject of a possible mediation had not been brought up during his meetings with Bettino Craxi, head of the Italian Council Ministers, or with Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti.

Caputo said that "it is quite natural that all democratic nations should be concerned and convinced about the need to reach a negotiated solution to that conflict, but I would request that that desire not be confused with any type of mediation."

When asked about the subjects discussed in his meeting with Andreotti, Caputo revealed that they had discussed bilateral relations at length. Caputo said that "Minister Andreotti commented on the various visits he has made to Argentina, his political view of the country, and his deep satisfaction over the way in which the government is conducting the democratic process in our country."

Caputo added that Andreotti also recalled some of the characteristics of the Argentine foreign policy during the past few years and his belief that a new phase is now beginning that will be marked by the predictability of Argentine policy and by the rationality of our foreign policy as opposed to the somewhat erratic policy of the previous military leadership.

When he was asked about the effect of the declaration on the Beagle Channel dispute signed last Monday by Argentina and Chile before the Holy See, the minister said that that declaration does not touch any of the specific subjects of the dispute. He added that "this declaration marks the definite stage, that we are starting precisely now for the drafting of a final treaty. I would say that it gives this lengthy negotiation a new impetus."

Caputo noted that after the joint declaration was signed the Chilean delegation held a meeting with the Vatican mediating committee and that the Argentine delegation had held a similar meeting this morning. In this regard, he pointed out that the meeting had only ended a few minutes before he was interviewed; therefore, he had not had a chance to meet with the Argentine representatives who had attended it.

Minister Caputo also disclosed that the first meeting of the two parties with the Vatican mediation committee will be held this afternoon (Italian time). During this meeting the three committees will analyze the way in which the negotiations between the parties will be carried out in the next few months.

When he was asked whether he would go from Italy to France and Switzerland, Caputo said that that trip was not scheduled, that there is nothing definite in that regard, and added that his visit to Switzerland is scheduled for 8 February, that is, after he has accompanied President Alfonsin to Venezuela to attend the Venezuelan president's inauguration.

The minister refused to mention a date on which a definite agreement with Chile will be reached. However, he pointed out that we would all like to find a just, honorable, and peaceful solution as soon as possible. Caputo added: "You are aware that negotiations can sometimes proceed slowly or quite rapidly, therefore, I cannot say the exact date on which the final agreement will be reached."

Caputo noted that the role of the Congress is not limited to the final phase of the negotiations, that is, once the agreement is signed, "Congress can also intervene while the treaty is being drafted to request the executive branch for information regarding the status of the negotiations."

The minister said: "Moreover, we immediately started a dialogue with the foreign relation commissions of the two chambers in order to keep them consistently informed on the progress being made. This is very important since it allows Congress to control the executive branch's actions, thus preventing any concealed or arbitrary actions."

Regarding Argentina's Latin American policy, the foreign minister confirmed that at the Economic Conference in Quito Argentina initiated the task seeking coordination, but noted that it does not want to rush things but to act moderately, without rhetoric and pomposity, in order to involve itself in the region as it should.

Caputo ended by commenting: "We desire a harmonious, mature, and frank dialogue with the remaining nations of the continent, and this will be categorically emphasized during President Alfonsin's visit to Venezuela.

MID URGES ACCEPTANCE OF POPE'S BEAGLE PROPOSAL

PY252257 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0042 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Jan (NA) -- The Integration and Development Movement (MID) today said that the signing of a declaration of peace and friendship on the Beagle "continues to be, as in the past, a way of avoiding acceptance of the proposal made by the august mediator which would expedite the solution to a conflict which has lasted long enough."

In a document released tonight, the MID says that the Argentine-Chilean declaration "does not fulfill the aspirations of the Multiparty, which in June 1983 demanded the signing of a treaty which would guarantee durable peace and a lasting friendship with the Republic of Chile."

In a clear reference to the ceremony held yesterday, the MID says: "It is not with diplomatic expendiencies and gestures aimed at gaining publicity that the basic national objectives will be achieved and the people's deepest desires fulfilled." The MID then demands that "specific actions on which a new coexistence could be based" be taken.

The MID admits, however, that the signing of the declaration "is a renewed expression of the desire to resolve the southern conflict through peaceful means within the framework of the Vatican mediation."

"This action must be understood as an expression by the Argentine Government of its intention to continúe the negotiations through the mediation of the Vatican's diplomacy," the MID says. It then adds: "This is then a ratification of the position that the country has adopted on the occasion of the signing of the Montevideo Treaty."

"The signing of this type of declaration was already considered then by the MID as minimal. Thus the MID has actively advocated in recent years the acceptance of the pope's proposal as starting point from which we may actively negotiate to safeguard Argentine rights as much as possible."

The MID then considers that "it is paramount to take this action to conclude this conflict as soon as possible which, if not resolved once and for all, will remain a potential cause for armed confrontation."

"We have made urgent, periodical calls to this end, particularly since the markedly adverse results of the Malvinas War in 1982, in the face of the high risks that the possibility of a conflict poses to our interests and territorial integrity," the MID says.

COMMISSION ASKS FOREIGN TRAVEL BAN ON EX-LEADERS

PY251405 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] The National Commission on the Disappearance of Persons has filed a request with the appropriate government agencies asking that a number of former government officials and senior military officers prevented from leaving the country. The committee believes that their testimony and/or information could proven decisive in fulfilling its assignment.

On the committees list of persons who should be prevented from leaving the country are the members of the former military juntas and the de facto presidents of the so-called process of national reorganization. Also listed are former interior ministers, chiefs of staff, heads of Army corps, commanders of naval operations, and heads of the state, Army, Navy, and Air Force intelligence and information services who were on duty during that period.

The committee is also asking that former police chiefs, river and maritime police chiefs, National Border Police chiefs, and National Penitentiary Services heads, as well as health directors, judge-advocates, and vicar-general of the three branches of the Armed Forces and the Federal Police, who were on duty during that period, be prevented from leaving the country.

The committee then provides a list of persons who are regarded as particularly useful for its purposes. The list is as follows: General Ramon Camps, General Carlos Suarez Mason, General Luciano Benjamin Menendez, General Antonio Domingo Bustos, General Fernando Perez Ciotti, General Carlos Olivera Rovere, General Iberico Saint Jean, General Ernesto Trotz, General Abel Frias, General Federico Minicucci, Colonel Roberto Roales Ferro, Vice Admiral Ruben Chamorro, Rear Admiral Horacio Zaratiegui, Colonel Mohamed Ali Seineldin, Lieutentant Alfredo Astiz, Captain Jorge Perren, Jose Lopez Rega, Jose Maria Villone, Anibal Gordon, General Miguel Angel Iniguez, Colonel Jorge Osinde, General Otto Paladino, former Federal Police Inspector Rodolfo Peregrino Fernandez, and Navy Petty Officer Raul Vivarino.

Finally, we would like to point out that more names could be added to this list as time goes by, since we have only read part of it and some people on it are residing abroad.

PERONIST SCORES DISAPPEARED PERSONS COMMISSION

PY251722 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 25 Jan 84 p 7

[Text] (DYN) -- Osvaldo Papaleo, who was press secretary during the last Peronist administration, said yesterday that he will not submit any charges to the National Commission on the Disappearance of Persons, in the belief that some of its government-appointed members are unworthy of investigating reports of illegal repression.

Papaleo, who claims that he was held in the same clandestine detention centre as former LA OPINION editor Jacobo Timerman, accused journalist Magdalena Ruiz Guinazu and Dr Rene Favaloro -- two commission members -- of having participated in the so-called National Reorganization Process, adding that neither of the two did anything to report human rights violations of which they were aware.

Mrs Ruiz Guinazu expressed her surprise at Papaleo's charges and ascribed them to the former official's lack of information regarding her defence of human rights. "The general public," she said, "is aware of the threats and pressure to which I was subjected owing to my position on the human rights issue."

LABOR LEADERS, MINISTER DISCUSS UNION ISSUES

PY251725 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 25 Jan 84 p 7

[Text] (MLL-NA-DYN) -- Three labour groupings opposed to the RA and Azopardo branches of the General Confederation of Labour (CGT) yesterday agreed to form a joint "liaison board." The groups, the National Workers Gathering (ENTRA), the National Movement for Union Renewal (MNRS), and the Argentine Union Assembly (AGA), represented last night by over 30 delegates, stated as their objective the "fight for a single, united, democratic and pluralistic CGT."

The liaison board will meet tomorrow to prepare a programme reflecting the groups' partial support of the government's union reorganization bill, which they nevertheless described as an "emergency" measure. ENTRA signatories last night included Daniel Egea and Sergio Peralta, MNRS representatives included Nestor Rompani and Marcelo Fernandez, and Juan Blass Alari and Juan Carlos Maso were part of AGA delegation.

Meanwhile Labour Minister Antonio Mucci said that the CGT-RA and the CGT-Azopardo faction which are planning to become unified only represent a sector of the labour movement, and that their threat to hold the plenary unification session scheduled for today in the street was "capricious." He nevertheless acknowledged that they are in their "democratic" right to do so, and once again restated his refusal to allow the traditional CGT headquarters to be used for the meeting.

Mucci also told Radio Continental that "after the union reorganization law is passed in two weeks' time", a "genuine, single CGT" can be formed on the basis of elections. He argued that labour leaders who had been elected in 1973 and had held office throughout the military regime were unrepresentative, and called on the organizers of today's meet to show "common sense." Mucci later met left-wing Peronists Andres Framini and Antonio Garcia -- whom he described as "representative" -- and who stated their basic support for the government's proposed labour legislation.

However Peronist deputy Ruben Cardozo claimed yesterday that unionists who had "struggled through the years of military dictatorship" were more representative than newly created groups "basking in government favour." CGT-Azopardo leader Jorge Triaca called the government's tough stance a "smokescreen to conceal the failure of its economic and social policies". It was announced late last night that today's meeting will be held at the food workers' union headquarters, beginning at 10 am.

In Congress, the Radicals are ready to introduce a clause into the union bill establishing union representation on the Labour Ministry appointed administrative boards, parliamentary sources reported yesterday.

Lower House labour committee secretary Roberto Alvarez (Radical-Buenos Aires) told the HERALD that the government bill will be passed "within 15 days", adding the Radicals would not compromise on articles allowing the Labour Ministry to appoint union administrators and granting electoral courts jurisdiction over union elections.

GOVERNMENT ISSUES GUIDELINES ON ECONOMIC PROGRAM

PY250231 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2106 GMT 24 Jan 84

["Highlights" of guidelines for a program of economic recovery, improvements in employment and real salary, and an attack on inflation issued by the government on 24 January]

[Text] The highlights of the program entitled "Immediate Program for Economic Recovery" are these:

-- The increase in real salaries from late 1983 to late 1984 is estimated at 6-8 percent.

-- Over the same period, real decrease of interest rates is estimated at 8 percent.

-- By the end of 1984, interest rates could drop to 4 percent per month on deposits, and to 4.8 percent on loans.

-- By this year's end, the monthly inflation rate may be reduced to a figure on the order of 4 percent.

-- During 1984, the gross national product could rise by 5 percent.

-- This year's exports may reach $9 billion, thus making it possible to import essential inputs.

-- Imports might be as high as $5.5 billion, leaving a surplus of $3.5 billion.

-- The foreign debt does not constitute an excessive burden in relation to the country's economic potential.

-- The foreign debt problem lies with the very high interest rates, and relatively short terms, and with the fact that only a small portion of its corresponds to productive investments.

-- The country is determined to meet its foreign obligations, and to that end it only needs the cooperation of creditor countries.

-- In order to meet the foreign debt obligations, it would be desirable that governments establish a general framework for the renegotiation of extended time periods and lower interest rates.

-- The losses of financial institutions are calculated at about 30 percent of the loans, that is, slightly more than 50 percent of capital and reserves.

-- The noninflationary improvement of salaries in 1984 will represent an active element in the growth of the aggregate demand of the economy.

-- It will be essential in this context to avoid foreign exchange overvaluation or undervaluation.

-- The economic recovery will be initially stimulated by the housing and agricultural expansion programs.

-- The gross national product growth has decreased to levels corresponding to those of the beginning of the previous decade.

-- For that reason, the average real salaries which could be achieved by the end of this year will continue to be lower than those in 1971.

-- It will be necessary to maintain an adequate currency exchange policy, a program of exports promotion, and of rational imports substitution so as to make it possible to service the foreign debt, to have a trade balance surplus, and to maintain the policy of internal economic reactivation.

-- A balance should be reestablished by incorporating destitute sectors into the nation's social mainstream, by offering them minimum standards of consumption, education, health, and housing.

-- A democratic government cannot silence the demands of the needy by resorting to repression, because the majority of the citizenry has voted for a program based on social justice.

-- The government should exercise political power through permanent dialogue with the citizenry, but with the firmness and resolve stemming from the legitimacy of its mandate.

-- The objectives of economic recovery and income redistribution must be simultaneously reached. The question is not one of attaining adequate growth first, and distributing its benefits later.

-- Those who have more should contribute more, and those who have less should contribute to the extent of their capabilities.

-- It will be impossible to tackle a vigorous development without solving the problems of inflation and foreign debt.

-- There is no monetarist solution to the inflation created by fiscal deficits. The only rational solution is to reduce it until it is eliminated.

-- It is indispensable and urgent to introduce some modifications so as to have an increasingly progressive tax system.

-- The immediate and most important modification have to do with income and assets.

-- The tax collection system will be improved through the use of modern means to control income tax declarations, thus closing the tax evasion gaps.

-- The objectives that the government sets for itself this year are:

A. To improve real salaries.

B. To reactivate the economy by mobilizing the existing idle capacity, strengthening enterprises to bear heavier tax burdens and expanding productive investments.

C. To correct the considerable transfer of profits which had taken place from productive activities to financial activities.

-- Above all, inflation must be brought under control.

-- The poverty, which has unjustly returned over the past years of economic and social deterioration, must be fought resolutely.

WHEAT PRODUCTION FORECAST TO DROP 20 PERCENT

PY251705 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 25 Jan 84 p 3

[Text] (DYN) -- A drop in wheat figures is reported in the latest estimates supplied by the "Banco Ganadero Argentino". It says wheat production for the 1984-84 season will be in the vicinity of 12.1 million tons, which is 20 percent below the record figure obtained the previous year. Internal consumption is estimated at 4.5 million tons. There are about 1.5 million tons of wheat left over from last year, so there will be some 9.1 million tons available for export this year. This is 7.1 percent less than the previous year.

The bank survey stresses that exporters are facing some serious problems caused by economic conditions in this country and the fact that prices have dropped in the international markets. For the third time in three years production has exceeded demand in Argentina. Finally, the bank report suggests the industry might be helped by the application of a sustain price for wheat, the fixing of a minium "FOB" price for exports, and a reduction on wheat export retentions.

BRIEFS

MAGAZINE RESUMES PUBLICATION -- Buenos Aires, 12 Jan (TELAM) -- The first issue of the monthly magazine CLAVES, headed by Juan Carlos Cerrutti and Carlos Quiros, has been issued in Buenos Aires. CLAVES, which was issued some years ago but had been closed down by the military regimes, carries interviews, articles on domestic and international politics and economics, special commentaries, bibliographies, and so forth. [Summary] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0924 GMT 12 Jan 84 PY]

1983 AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS -- (DYN) -- Argentine exports of grain, oleaginous substances, and byproducts totalled 28,106,000 tons last year, according to provisional government figures released yesterday by the agriculture secretariat. Cereal products account for 23,163,000 tons of this total, which represents a 40 percent improvement on 1982 figures. Although grain export prices fell from an average of 178 dollars in 1982 to 141 dollars in 1983, the 4,438 million dollars earned by this sector still constituted 58 percent of last year's export revenue. [Text] [Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 13 Jan 84 p 3]

STRIKES, CONFRONTATIONS CHALLENGE SILES ZUAZO

PY251330 Paris AFP in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] La Paz, 24 Jan (AFP) -- President Hernan Siles Zuazo today finds himself in a confrontation with workers, peasants, congressmen, private businessmen, and political parties. This situation has given rise to the greatest political and social tension since Bolivia returned to democracy on 10 October 1982.

The leaders of the influential Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) unleashed this series of conflicts, which will turn into an indefinite general strike this coming Friday, when they began an idefinite hunger strike yesterday, Monday, demanding [words indistinct] minimum adjustable wage.

Government spokesmen consider it an impossibility at this time to implement a minimum wage of $300, in the midst of the most acute economic crisis in Bolivia's history, when, according to Planning Minister Roberto Jordan Pando, the minimum adjustable wage has been implemented only in a few Western industrialized countries.

Finance Minister Fernando Baptista Gumucio last night offered the workers a 54-percent increase as of January, but the COB leaders replied that they will continue with their hunger strike if a 57-percent wage increase, retroactive to 1 December 1983, is not granted. The implementation of the adjustable scale that was ordered by the government 2 days ago has already been rejected by the COB. For its part, the Confederation of Private Businessmen has warned that it will not obey the agreements that the government and workers might achieve regarding the wage problem.

A document that has been released by the businessmen indicates that any type of measure adopted without consulting the sectors that are involved and that has the intention of destroying free enterprise will not be acknowledged and will also be resisted. It also indicates that the confederation's members have declared themselves in a state of emergency. The attacks of the businessmen have been centered on the co-governing Communist Party, which they have already asked be excluded from the government. The businessmen have indicated that they deplore that the pluralist mandate that emerged from the last elections has lost its value with the ever-increasing domination by the Communist Party, which is demanding preparatory measures for the country's Sovietization from the COB.

On another front, the executive board of the Sole Trade Union Confederation of Peasant Workers of Bolivia [Confederacion Sindical Unica de Trabajadores Campesinos de Bolivia] (CSUTCB) has declared a hunger strike and threatened to take energetic measures if its demands are not considered. The peasants are asking the new campesino affairs minister for fair produce prices, a food quota, agricultural equipment, peasant co-participation in rural development projects, the construction of markets, and sanctions for those involved in agricultural machinery purchase deals during the government of former General Luis Garcia Meza (1980-81).

Adding to the conflict, Congress' two chambers, with an opposition majority in both of them, have adhered to the COB's call for a strike, and at the same time reproaching the lack of responsibility of the last military government.

Two deputies of the Socialist Party One (PS-1) have voluntarily gone on a hunger strike. National Democratic Alliance (ADN), a conservative group that is headed by former President Hugo Banzer Suarez, today demanded an immediate call for general elections as the only solution to the political and economic crisis. Therefore, President Silez Zuazo, hounded by this scenario of conflict, is negotiating with the COB, trying to find a lasting solution.

Call for Immediate General Elections

PY251520 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2259 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] La Paz, 24 Jan (EFE) -- The rightist National Democratic Alliance (ADN), which is headed by former President Hugo Banzer Suarez (1971-1978), today demanded that President Hernan Siles Zuazo's government call an immediate general election. The ADN, which obtained third place in the 1980 general elections -- won by Siles Zuazo -- considers that a call for new elections will mean that a "patriotic act" has been carried out that will allow Bolivia to overcome the current political and economic crisis.

The document that has been released by the political party stressed the fact that the vote of the people "will achieve a dialogue between Bolivians by the installing of a true government of consensus."

The document stresses that "a government such as the Democratic and Popular Unity (UDP) of President Siles, which is slowly becoming defunct, with its authority eroded, cannot produce solutions for the crisis." Banzer's party states that "important political-constitutional resolutions and options must be adopted, such as the holding of general elections, in order to save the democratic process."

It states that the president "should be impeached for his bad handling of the state apparatus and for having deceived the faith of the Bolivian people." It also reproaches Siles Zuazo for permitting the "activities of the irregular armed groups with leftist persuasions that act with impunity in Bolivia and that are a risk to national security." However, it adds that the impeachment of Siles Zuazo will only make the achievement of a solution to the crisis much more difficult, because it would make the gap which exists between the executive and legislative branches even wider. The only actual constitutional outlet, therefore, is a call for general elections.

The ADN strongly attacks the governing Bolivian Communist Party (PCB) and makes it responsible for a large part of the difficulties that the democratic process is experiencing, due to its "clear action of slow and covert destruction and democratic institutions." It also warns the Bolivian Armed Forces that they should not listen to the propositions of some political sectors that wish to apply pressure for another intervention by the military through a coup d'etat. The rightist ADN has released its document at a time when the government of President Hernan Siles Zuazo is under attack by the labor unions, whose members went on a hunger strike on Monday which is to last until economic measures that benefit the majority are approved.

Press Workers Join Strike

PY250300 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0058 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] La Paz, 24 Jan (EFE) -- The Federation of Bolivian Press Workers [FTPB] today joined the hunger strike called yesterday by the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) to demand that the government of President Hernan Siles Zuazo solve the economic crisis. The FTPB leaders said they are firmly determined to carry out their drastic decision, along with the other unions, until Siles Zuazo yields to their demands.

There are now hundreds of fasters throughout Bolivia and the Confederation of Peasant Workers, the largest alliance in the nation, is still threatening to block roads next Thursday. The union leaders' hunger strike against the government of Siles Zuazo has reached alarming levels. The leaders are determined to gradually bring Bolivia to a standstill if the government does not approve salary increases which would be in keeping with the cost of living.

Government Proposes Salary Hike

PY251340 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Excerpt] During a press conference held by the economic team, the Bolivian Government proposed to the Bolivian Labor Confederation [COB] a salary increase of 54 percent on the basis of an adjustable clause and once again rejected the implementation of the minimum necessary salary.

The labor and labor development minister said that the salary reclassification demanded by the workers in view of the distorted implementation of the system in the past with an adjustable clause has been fully considered in the government decision. The economic team's press conference was conducted by Minister Jorge Greve.

The 54-percent salary increase will be retroactive only to January for reasons which were duly explained by the economic team. As of January, all workers throughout the country will earn a minimum salary of 45,364 Bolivian pesos, and those who earn more than 30,000 Bolivian pesos will receive a 68-percent increase.

CRITICISM OF JOINT MANEUVERS WITH U.S. REJECTED

PY251430 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] National Defense Minister Manuel Cardenas Mallo has said that it is not necessary to have a permit from the Senate or any other institution to carry out the U.S.-Bolivian joint military maneuvers. Yesterday, just before attending the cabinet meeting, the minister stated that Bolivia signed an agreement for this purpose on 30 June 1956, during Victor Paz Estenssoro's government. Manuel Cardenas recalled that on that date, after the April 1952 revolution, the government authorized the establishment of the U.S. military mission in our country. The defense minister termed the maneuvres scheduled to be carried out by U.S. and Bolivian soldiers, "Bolivia-1," a mechanism destined to practice joint operations, grant assistance, and exchange tactics. The minister justified the maneuvers by pointing out that it is a way to improve the training of military officers and, therefore, he believes that such arrangements should exist.

RALLY FOR DIRECT ELECTIONS HELD IN SAO PAULO

PY251255 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The scheduled mass rally in favor of direct elections for president of the Republic will start at 1530 today at the Praca da Se here in Sao Paulo. It is estimated that 120,000 people will attend the massive gathering. The first groups from the interior have already started to arrive.

The police security measures for this afternoon's massive rally are ready. According to authorities of the military and plainclothes police forces, over 1,000 members of the two branches will be on guard as of 1200 to safeguard security and order for the participants.

The plainclothes police force will deploy all the members of its Social Communications Department, who will be supported by detectives of the down town district.

The military police are in charge of most of the patrolling, along with the antiriot squad, the cavalry regiment, the fire department, the traffic police, the highway patrol, and the metropolitan area No 1 police squad. The policemen will be unarmed, and only the officers are authorized to carry firearms.

Government Spokesman on Rally

PY260050 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Uberlandia -- Government House spokesman Carlos Atila has said that the rallies in support of the direct elections system like the one that took place in Sao Paulo today will not change Brazil's system of presidential succession because the Constitution specifies that the president must be elected indirectly.

Carlos Atila said that many persons attended the Sao Paulo rally merely to watch the people's show, just as party members did to listen to the speeches. Concerning the pro-direct elections group created within the PDS [Social Democratic Party], Atila said that it does not represent the position [words indistinct].

50 PDS MAYORS ADVOCATE DIRECT ELECTION METHOD

PY260157 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Curitiba -- Parana State Governor Jose Richa today received a statement advocating the adoption of the direct system for electing the president. The statement is signed by more than 50 PDS [Social Democratic Party] Parana State mayors.

GOVERNMENT TO END INTERVENTION IN OIL UNIONS

PY260046 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Labor Minister Murillo Macedo today instructed the labor relations secretariat to end the intervention that had been decreed in the Sao Bernardo, Paulinia, and Mataripe oil workers unions. This measure will allow the reopening of the unions' electoral process, which will resume 90 days after the intervention ends.

SAO PAULO AUTO PLANTS TO LAY OFF 1,200 WORKERS

PY251305 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Another 1,200 workers will be laid off from the automobile industry sector. The Ford Company was the first to adopt the voluntary layoff system and was later followed by Volkswagen. Ford needs to get rid of 500 workers while the Volkswagen factory needs to lay off 700. The two companies alleged that the decision was taken due to the market recession. Those workers who chose to be voluntarily laid off will receive a larger severance and will receive medical benefits. [passage indistinct]

MILITARY OFFICIALS RELEASE EUROPEAN REPORTERS

PY242024 Paris AFP in Spanish 1420 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Brasilia, 24 Jan (AFP) -- It was reported here today that two European journalists arrested last Saturday while reporting on Crateus, in northeastern Brazil, have been released and will be able to continue their work. It was a misunderstanding, said military officials who arrested Andre Dartevelle of Belgium television and Andre Gazut of the Swiss Romanica television. The two journalists are preparing a report on the drought in northeastern Brazil.

BRIEFS

NEW NAVY DISTRICT COMMANDER -- Vice Admiral Walter Faria Maciel yesterday assumed command of the I Naval District. He replaces Vice Admiral Luiz Leal Ferreira, who has been appointed commander in chief of the fleet. The military ceremony was presided over by Navy Operations Commander Paulo de Bonoso Duarte Pinto. [Excerpt] [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 29 Dec 83 p 6 PY]

NEW ARMY DIVISION COMMANDER -- Brigadier General Carlos Anibal Pacheco yesterday assumed his duties as commander of the II Artillery Division of Praia Grande. He replaces General Glenio Pinheiro, who has been appointed chief of the Army's Social Communications Center. [Excerpt] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 28 Dec 83 p 5 PY]

BUSINESSMEN PREFER CHAVEZ FOR PRESIDENT -- According to the poll conducted by the magazine EXAME, 30 percent of the 637 enterprise directors who were questioned throughout the country prefer Vice President Aureliano Chavez for president. Former Minister Helio Baltrao is the second most popular candidate with 19 percent of the votes, followed by Governor Tancredo Neves, banker (Olavo Setubal), Deputy Paulo Maluf with 7 percent and, Mario Andreazza with 0.9 percent. [Summary] [Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 20 Jan 84 PY]

NEW OIL DEPOSIT DISCOVERED -- Petrobras has discovered a new oil deposit in Esplanada district in the northern part of Bahia. According to Petrobras press adviser Carlos [surname indistinct], it is estimated that the deposit will produce 720 barrels of oil daily. [Summary] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 19 Jan 84 PY]

POPE ASKS SAFE-CONDUCTS FOR FOUR IN NUNCIATURE

PY252334 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1524 GMT 25 Jan 84

[By Albino Mallo]

[Excerpts] Santiago, 25 Jan (EFE) -- Acting Foreign Minister Lieutenant General Sergio Covarrubias has confirmed that Pope John Paul II is supporting the petition for four safe-conducts made by Apostolic Nuncio Angelo Sodano during his private conversation with Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle.

The four persons who sought refuge in the Apostolic Nunciature 10 days ago have been labeled by the government as members of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR). Consequently, no solution to this problem seems possible at this time.

According to Covarrubias, the foreign minister answered the pope's request by saying: "It is not easy for the government to grant your request because these people cannot be considered political refugees but common criminals."

General Covarrubias also explained that a decision on this matter is being studied by the highest government officials. In reference to the security of the Nuncio and his office personnel, he said that he believes that "nothing tragic will happen because of plentiful vigilance and control over the situation."

The acting foreign minister did not discard the possibility that if the safe-conducts are granted there could be different ways of settling this case. Jaime Jovanovic and Elsa Duarte are accused of firing the actual shots [which killed General Carol Urzua, Santiago intendant], while Pamela Cordero and Hector Jose Aguilera are only believed to be accomplices or accessories in the crime.

The other problem is what country would grant them asylum if the safe-conducts are granted, because the Vatican has limited territory; therefore, a place would have to be found for the four people requesting asylum.

MINISTRY DENIES CHARGES PENDING AGAINST REFUGEE

PY251951 Paris AFP in Spanish 1419 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Santiago, 25 Jan (AFP) -- Through a note released by the Interior Ministry, the Chilean military government today stated that the Chilean who was expelled from Spain and asked for political asylum while in transit through Argentina faces no charges in Chile.

Juan Carlos del Villar Jerez, who claimed to have been tortured in Santiago and expelled from his country, is not known to have engaged in political activities, no warrants for his arrest have been issued, and no measures preventing him from returning to his country are currently in force, the Interior Ministry note said. According to the note, Del Villar left for France of his own volition on 30 April 1983.

PANAMA'S GENERAL NORIEGA ARRIVES FOR VISIT

PA251911 Paris AFP in Spanish 1639 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Bogota, 25 Jan (AFP) -- General Manuel Antonio Noriega Moreno, the commander of Panama's Defense Forces, today arrived in Bogota for meetings with Colombian President Belisario Betancur and Defense Minister General Gustavo Matamoros D'Acosta.

The ranking Panamanian officer was greeted at the Bogota military airport by the defense minister and other ranking Colombian and Panamanian personalities.

On his arrival, the chief of the Panamanian Defense Forces thanked the government and military forces of Colombia for the invitation to visit the country.

"The purpose of my visit is to maintain and strengthen the military relations and cooperation between two sister nations and armed forces, which share the same principles and a common border," he said.

Gen Noriega added that his trip to Colombia has nothing to do with the peace efforts in Central America being conducted by the Contadora Group (Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela).

Gen Noriega and ranking Colombian military officers will attend a military review on Thursday at the Tolemaida Base, 125 km west of Bogota. Part of the program prepared for Gen Noriega includes discussions on military matters of common interest.

FARC ATTACKS RELAY POST; ARMY BEGINS OPERATIONS

PA242337 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Medellin -- The Army has begun a spectacular operation searching for subversive commandos of the self-styled Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, made upon some 130 insurgents who this morning attacked the Army relay station in the vicinity of the municipalities of Remedios and Puerto Berrio.

Troops from the 14th Brigade and reinforcements from different areas of the country this afternoon arrived in Puerto Berrio to initiate the search for the subversives, who murdered seve soldiers and wounded five others. A few moments ago, an official spokesman for the 14th Brigade said that five artillery helicopters were sent from the capital to reinforce the search for the FARC members who attacked the Army relay station in Cerro Grande, Antioquia Department.

Military patrols have increased in the past hours in response to (?reports) that the subversives are continuing to advance toward the Middle Magdalena region.

FARC Executes Peasants

PA242023 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Tunja -- Today, according to reports given to this "Supernews" program by the authorities, five peasants, accused of being Army informers, were shot to death by a cell of the self-styled Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC.

According to the report from police headquarters, approximately 15 armed subversives arrived at the La Corneta path, in Boyaca port municipality, Boyaca Department, and shot the peasants after accusing them of having Army ties.

The bodies of the five peasants have been found by the authorities. Guerrilla propaganda and a letter accusing them of having ties with the Army were left near them. Regular Army troops are carrying out an operation looking for clues to the whereabouts of the insurgents, who fled into a mountainous area.

Army Kills 7 FARC Members

PA251426 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Neiva -- During the past few hours, at least seven members of a column of the 17th Front of the outlawed Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, were killed in two armed clashes with Army troops in what is described as an all-out struggle against the armed subversive groups.

A spokesman for the 9th Brigade, headquartered in Neiva, reported that Tenerife Battalion troops engaged in two fierce clashes with subversives in (El Bernardito) and Naranjal, Tello Municipality, north of Bogota. According to the report, seven rebels were killed. The authorities carrying out the identification process have not yet revealed their identities.

It has also been learned that members of the self-styled FARC 17th Front who clashed with Army troops have fled into the eastern mountain range, where combing operations have been intensified. Meanwhile, reports say that the Tenerife Battalion members who clashed with the subversives did not suffer any deaths. A great number of weapons were left behind when the guerrillas were forced to flee during this clash.

Troops from the 9th Brigade have been deployed to the battlefield to reinforce patrol operations to capture the rebels, who have gone into the eastern mountain range.

SUMMARY OF 1983 DRUG ARRESTS, SEIZURES

PA251741 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 23 Jan 84 p 8a

[Text] During 1983 foreign authorities seized 43 Colombian vessels that were carrying cocaine and marijuana. The National Police helped arrest 318 drug traffickers during the same period.

The police gave international authorities complete information on drug shipments carried in private and commercial vessels, and helped carry out the operations that led to the arrest of drug traffickers and the confiscation of vessels.

The police report delivered to the "TV Today" program directed by Andres Pastrana did not include craft detained in Colombian territorial waters. Most of the confiscations were carried out in the United States, where the Drug Enforcement Agency has set up special measures to control the entry of vessels from Colombian ports.

According to the police report, 1,104 pounds of cocaine and 1,419,770 pounds of marijuana were seized abroad during 1983. Several of the seized vessels are owned by Julio Nasser and the Valdeblanquez family, who are well known on the Atlantic coast.

PRESIDENT, FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT BRAZIL

PY260030 Paris AFP in Spanish 2259 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Montevideo, 25 Jan (AFP) -- It has been learned from sources close to the Uruguayan Government that the previously postponed meeting between Brazilian President Joao Figueiredo and Uruguayan President Gregorio Alvarez will be held 27-28 February in Brasilia. It has been reported that Colonel Juan Pomoli, the new presidential public relations director, will soon travel to Brasilia to arrange some details of the visit of the Uruguayan president. It has also been reported that Foreign Minister Carlos Maeso will join the presidential entourage and that he will meet his Brazilian counterpart, Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, to discuss bilateral issues. The meeting between the two presidents was postponed a few months ago in view of the serious operation that the Brazilian president had to undergo.

CGTU DEMANDS LIFTING OF SECURITY MEASURES

PY252243 Paris AFP in Spanish 1346 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Montevideo, 24 Jan (AFP) -- The General Confederation of Uruguayan Workers (CGTU) today demanded that the security measures imposed on 18 January be lifted immediately, because it is not internal security that is in jeopardy but rather the workers' change of decent survival.

Despite the fact that it is a minority group within the labor movement, the CGTU -- which was granted official recognition several years ago -- demanded in-depth solutions to the salary problem, claiming that only through tripartite negotiations (management, workers, and government) will it be possibe to achieve the reconciliation and happiness that the entire nation wants.

The CGTU maintains that negotiations must result in the formulation of an emergency plan, the implementation of a system whereby salaries are readjusted every 120 days, the full enforcement of the freedoms and rights of unions, and the return of the republican system of government.

The CGT, which was not a member of the PIT [Interunion Workers Plenum], a group that was dissolved for calling a 24-hour general strike on 18 January 1984, noted that what happened on that day could not and should not have surprised the government because it reflected the general discontent with the current economic policy.

After maintaining that dissolving union organizations by decree involves the repetition of a historical mistake, the CGTU underlined that "it should have been reasoned instead that noone would have protested out of satisfaction or would have demonstrated to demand a lower standard of living."

In this regard, the confederation stressed that the government should have announced a general readjustment of salaries and retirement allowances instead of calling for reflection. If such had been the case, the CGTU remarked, results would have been quite differenct.

The CGTU pointed out that because the economic leadership has reiterated its strong refusal to grant the readjustment to which workers are entitled, the security measures will perhaps postpone but never appease the workers' just demands. The confederation concluded by saying that it is not possible to imagine life under permanent security measures.

VALERO URGES GDR TO INCREASE COOPERATION

FL251942 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1845 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Mexico City, 25 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Ricardo Valero, Mexican under secretary of foreign relations, has urged the German Democratic Republic (GDR) to increase its bilateral cooperation in politics and in areas appropriate to our respective participation in international society.

It has been reported in this capital that Valero, who is in Berlin attending the fifth meeting of the Joint Commission for Cultural and Educational Cooperation Between Mexico and the GDR, outlined the pacification objectives of the Contadora Group, which is becoming more and more influential. The Mexican under secretary told GDR Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Bernard N. Neugebauer that we are pleased to note the marked increase in the number of governments, parliaments, and international institutions seeking to stop the march of destruction. Valero stressed the fact that Mexico and the GDR ought to increase their cooperation in political affairs and other matters.

ITALY TO CONTINUE BUYING OIL FROM MEXICO

FL251625 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0205 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Pemex Director Mario Ramon Beteta today announced that, according to the National Hydrocarbon Agency [Ente Nacional De Hidrocarburos -- ENI], Italy will continue to purchase petroleum from Mexico. ENI Director Franco Reviglio and the Pemex director stated that trade relations between the two countries will be strengthened on matters relating to crude, petrochemicals, and science and technology.

Beteta stressed that PEMEX is interested in better organizing its acquisitions of petrochemicals abroad as well as establishing a hydrocarbon exchange program between these organizations. Beteta said that he was pleased to have Pemex as the conduct for relations between our country and Italy, and pointed to the similarity between ENI and Pemex, both of which work closely on the field of energy.

PSUM, PMT CRITICAL OF LETTER OF INTENT TO IMF

PA242209 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 5 Jan 84 p 7

[Text] The Unified Socialist Party of Mexico [PSUM] has commented on the letter of intent to the IMF for 1984 released by the Finance and Public Credit Secretariat, describing the "manifest cynicism of some of the basic points of the letter" as not deceiving anyone.

Regarding wages, it explained that the government's commitment to maintain indefinitely the dramatic wage deterioration, which has grown in past years, has led the average worker's income to be at the same level today as it was 25 years ago.

On the 40-percent inflation rate expected by the government this year, the PSUM noted that the anticipated inflation rate will undoubtedly be far surpassed by the real growth in 1984. Therefore, it asked: Who are they trying to fool?

Another point questioned is the 1-percent growth rate expected this year, a key element of which is private enterprise. It is presumed the people will be the losers in this recovery strategy.

In view of this, the PSUM proposes a tax reform that levies higher taxes on the wealthy, a wage policy oriented to restore the workers' buying power; a foreign economic policy that gives priority to national and popular interests; and an anti-inflationary policy that abandons the idea that wages and public spending are the decisive factors in the existing inflationary spiral, when it is really the abuse and speculation of businessmen that is behind the "inflationary plight."

The Government's Economic Policy, Unpopular: Mexican Workers Party [PMT]

For its part, the Mexican Workers Party, in stating its position regarding the letter of intent, notes that it once more confirms the government's unpopular economic policy, which will cause more inflation and unemployment this year. The PMT sees the economic recovery symptoms noted by the government as far from the truth. Recovery symptoms such as a surplus trade balance, reduction of inflation to 80 percent, and increased international reserves do not really exist.

The PMT notes that the trade balance deficit reduction is due simply to drastic cuts in imports, especially industrial goods, which is why so many industries are paralyzed.

Regarding inflation, it notes that it may have been reduced to 80 percent last year, but the increase in the minimum wage was barely 30 percent. This does not take into account that the state has raised the price of some of its utilities, such as a 35-percent rise for electricity, which will undoubtedly result in higher prices for many products.

DE LA MADRID SPEAKS ON AGRARIAN POLICY

PA251550 Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 21 Jan 84 p 1

[Article by Francisco Ramirez R.]

[Text] President Miguel de la Madrid yesterday said: We do not live in a dictatorial or a totalitarian state. There is no valid reason to continue importing food. The government, on behalf of society, evaluates demands, establishes priorities, and weighs needs against resources to support the peasants' efforts.

He said that the final objective of these actions is to raise the Mexican peasant's standard of living by helping him benefit from an organized and productive use of his resources.

De la Madrid said: We do not want plans on paper, or experts at filling out forms and drawing charts. We need working systems with reasonable, sensible, and at the same time ambitious objectives.

The chief executive said that the funds earmarked for agriculture will be guarded meticulously. He said this after a meeting in which he inaugurated a large-scale program to promote agricultural production in the country in which 1.5 billion pesos will be invested.

The president told members of his cabinet and peasant representatives that his administration is not trying to turn these meetings into political spectacles. He said that genuine political returns come from effective work.

After urging communal and ejido farmers, as well as small property owners, to strengthen collective organizations in farming, the head of state said there is no reason to fear associations or the term collective work. He added that this has no ideological overtones.

The president reiterated that the Constitution and the Federal Agrarian Reform Law will be respected, and that latifundia and malingering will continue to be combatted.

OYDEN ORTEGA ON CANAL LABOR, CONTADORA

PA251836 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Interview with Oyden Ortega, Panamanian Foreign Minister and spokesman for the Panamanian delegation to the Panama Canal Commission Board of Directors, by an unidentified correspondent, at the Panama Canal Commission Administration Building in Balboa; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] You speak of an increase in the Panamanian labor force, but in recent weeks there has been talk of reducing Panamanian personnel in the canal area. Isn't that a contradiction?

[Ortega] That is right. We don't want a reduction of the Panamanian labor force. We believe that policies should be promoted to increase the number of Panamanians, based on the treaty. There has to be an increasing number of Panamanians and a decreasing number of North Americans. This menas that personnel selection and training policies have to be improved with the objective of selecting and training more Panamanians. This is why Panama opposes a Panamanian labor force reduction as part of the austerity plan of the Panama Canal Administration. I believe this is in disagreement with Panama's policy, and with the principles of the treaty.

[Reporter] Has Panama presented any alternative to the implementation of the personnel reduction measure?

[Ortega] The Panamanian members have not only presented alternatives, we have also supported them. We have presented several alternatives. We did this in a document prepared by the Panamanian side. These alternatives would allow other meausres to be taken, without having to reduce the labor force. This will be discussed at this board of directors meeting, and the Panamanian group will of course have to defend its

[Reporter] One last question, Mr Foreign Minister, how are the preparations for the holding of the forthcoming Contadora Group meeting going?

[Ortega] The team of vice foreign ministers of Contadora and Central America will meet on 31 January to welcome and install the various commissions that were approved at the last meeting of the Contadora Group with the Central American governments. This will speed up the Contadora process, because these commissions have a deadline for presenting their reports.

GOVERNMENT PROTESTS ACTIONS OF CANAL POLICE

PA251926 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Panama today protested to the Panama Canal Commission Board of Directors over an abuse committed against two Panamanian board members, Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega and Luis Anderson, former labor minister and current secretary general of the ORIT [Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers]. Two U.S. policemen, who claimed not to know the two Panamanians -- in spite of what persons nearby tried to tell them of obstacles when Ortega and Anderson entered the Panama Canal Commission Administration Building.

One of the policemen pretended he was going to take out his gun when faced with Ortega's and Anderson's insistence. One of the policemen also scolded Anderson for being a labor leader.

The protest by the Panamanian members of the Canal Commission Board of Directors was also filed because prior to this incident it had been agreed that policemen born in Panama must work with North Amerian policemen on days when the board of directors is to meet, in order to avoid this type of mistake.

PAPO PRESIDENT ON OPPOSITION ALLIANCE PLANS

PA242122 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Interview with Carlos Ivan Zuniga, president of the Panamanian Popular Action Party, PAPO, by an unidentified reporter; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Zuniga] The Authentic Panamenist Party's nomination of Dr Arnulfo Arias clears up the political vista. We are insisting that all oppositon political parties join in an alliance. We do not intend to impose a candidate on the Authentic Panamenist Party, just as it should not try to impose a candidate on the alliance. Thus, Dr Arnulfo Arias' nomination clarified things, in that the Authentic Panamenist Party now has its candidate. We must now try to find a candidate for the alliance.

[Reporter] There was a meeting this morning among representatives of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], the Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement [MOLIRENA] and PAPO as a result of Dr Arias' nomination. What was the outcome of this meeting?

[Zuniga] You know that PAPO, MOLIRENA, and the PDC have a political alliance and are trying to include other Panamanian political sectors in it. This morning we met to continue our preparations aimed at arriving at a set of candidates to represent our three parties. Tomorrow we will meet again with the group that is studying the basic program for the alliance, and with another group that is examining issues related to the alliance's prospects in the legislature, etc. On Wednesday we will hold a third meeting to try to establish a definite ticket for the three parties.

You will remember, and the country should know, that these three parties all declined to choose respective presidential candidates in an effort to achieve an alliance nomination, which was to have included the Authentic Panamenist Party. We submitted this matter to that party and asked that they supply names of candidates for the alliance. We even agreed to the possibility of that candidate being a member of the Authentic Panamenist Party, subject to unanimous acceptance by these three parties. Unfortunately, they have chosen to go it alone. We respect their right to do so. So the alliance will not include the Authentic Panamenist Party, but only the PAPO, the PDC, and MOLIRENA.

[Reporter] What are the terms of this alliance?

[Zuniga] We must now look for candidates who will be accepted unanimously by all three parties. In fact, at the meeting we held with Dr Arnulfo Arias to forge an alliance of the four opposition political parties, we said that the Popular Action Party did not have a presidential candidate because we consider defeating the current process the most important issue. The primary condition for fulfilling this is to renounce all personal aspirations.

FRAMPO SUPPORTS ARDITO BARLETTA PLATFORM

PA252338 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 24 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Alvaro Arosemena G., secretary general of the Popular Broad Front Party, FRAMPO, has told the media that the statement made by Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta -- that his government program envisages a swift solution to the problems of hunger and unemployment, and the eradication of administrative corruption in our country -- agrees with the philosophy proclaimed when FRAMPO was founded. Barletta is a possible presidential candidate.

FRAMPO believes that solving the problem of the thousands of youths, who annually join the ranks of the unemployed is a priority issue, and the party thus urges Dr Barletta to dedicate all his time and effort to this task so that our youths may find jobs in both private and state enterprises. Young people are the hope and foundation of the fatherland, and they therefore deserve a bright future.

Arosemena said that it is necessary to orient state and private resources toward increased and improved agricultural, livestock, and industrial production in the country, "by means of a harmonic cooperation between workers, investors, and government," in order to save the people from the poverty and violence currently being endured by sister Central American nations.

ARIAS COMMUNIQUE URGES CHANGES TO MILITARY LAW

PA252001 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 24 Jan 84 p 1

[Communique released by Dr Arnulfo Arias Madrid, Authentic Panamenist Party presidential candidate, in Panama City on 23 January]

[Text] As a legal representative and presidential candidate of the Authentic Panamenist Party, I hereby declare that:

We have insisted that we should accept into our National Conscience Coalition [Coalicion Nacional de Conciencias] any person or group that agrees with the democratic principles that should govern the Republic. The only persons who should be in prison are those who have committed a crime and have been declared guilty during an impartial, legal trial. We especially desire that the action of justice be speeded up, and that those who go to prison for common crimes not suffer.

In addition, in order to have peace and justice, Law 20 on the armed forces should undergo deep changes, so that the authority of the president of the Republic is clearly established, as in all civilized countries of the world.

COSTA RICA

U.S. AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENT UPSETS PRESIDENT

PA251711 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge has reproached U.S. Ambassador Curtin Winsor for a statement to the press questioning government actions.

The president summoned Ambassador Winsor to a meeting at his private home this afternoon. According to reports, President Monge is very upset by Winsor's statement.

A few hours before, two newsmen had asked Monge his opinion regarding Winsor's remarks, but he said that he preferred to talk to the ambassador before making any statement.

The U.S. ambassador said that the National Liberation Party should show a little willingness and pragmatism so that Costa Rica can enter the 21st century as a developed country. The U.S. ambassador reportedly said that President Monge agrees that the next 2 years will determine the country's future, and added: I have great confidence in him because he is a very able politician.

The ambassador's statement caused a confrontation between National Liberation Party leaders and the president because, according to some, the U.S. ambassador intervened in the country's domestic affairs. Monge has repeatedly said that U.S. aid to Costa Rica has not been subject to any type of pressure. Monge's and Winsor's statements conflict, according to some, and this affects the country's image and the government's autonomy

In addition, although the current government originated in the National Liberation Party, the fact that the ambassador held the party responsible for the country's future also upset party leaders. Furthermore, the fact that Monge summoned the ambassador to tell him that he is upset has been the cause of concern among government officials and U.S. diplomatic representatives.

In view of Monge's reaction to the U.S. ambassador's statement, the U.S. Embassy released a short statement saying that in his recent remarks to the press the U.S. ambassador referred to the Costa Rican Government's historic opportunity to face the challenge of the current economic difficulties. According to the U.S. Embassy, Winsor was not trying to prescribe any action for any specific group. He was rather trying to express his support for the Costa Rican Government.

EL SALVADOR

COPREFA REPORTS DEATH OF U.S. 'MERCENARY'

PA252107 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 25 Jan 84 p 2

[Text] The Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, has reported that the death of Karol Ichil, a U.S. mercenary who was a member of the terrorists' northeastern front battalion command, is further proof of the presence of foreigners in the rebel's leadership.

Similarly, many foreign leaders are responsible for ordering the destruction of the Salvadoran people's property. When an extremist source confirmed Ichil's death, charges again surfaced that key positions in the terrorists' leadership are held by foreigners. These key positions are held by such people as Carlos Gallo, alias Santiago or Flaco, (Venezuelan), director of psychological warfare and an announcer for a clandestine radio; Hernan Vera, alias Lobo de Morazan or Maravilla; Rogelio Poncell, alias Cirilo, (Belgian), chief of the popular church; Pooen Maycoll, alias Gaspar, (German); Brigeth Cherie, alias Farah, a 32-year-old German woman; Maria F. Alvarez, (Mexican), who is involved in psychological warfare; Reinaldo Sanchez Rodriguez, (Mexican); and Carlos Lopez, (Colombian).

These foreign terrorists are some of the people who are commissioned by the Castro regime to direct the FMLN's terrorist battalions, COPREFA concluded.

COPREFA REPORTS ON GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES

Bodies Found; Youths Kidnapped

PA242127 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Report issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA; date and place not given]

[Text] Bodies of 12 Terrorists Found in a Common Grave

The bodies of 12 FMLN terrorists were found yesterday in a common grave near Linares Caulotal canton in the jurisdiction of San Agustin in Usulutan Department. The bodies were found by members of the Atlacatl Rapid Deployment Battalion, which forms part of the peace force involved in the recently begun "Welfare for Usulutan" operation.

Ten Youths Kidnapped by Terrorists

An undetermined number of terrorists entered the village of Potrerillos in the jurisdiction of Ilobasco, Cabanas Department, and kidnapped 10 peasants youths to reinforce their faltering ranks. The youths were taken to an unknown location. Relatives said they are worried about the fate of their sons, adding that their pleas to the extremists have been in vain.

Attack on Coffee Plant

PA252314 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 2130 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Communique issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA; date and place not given]

[Text] The FMLN gave further proof of its (?savagery) on Sunday when it burned the San Luis coffee-processing plant in the small town of Moncagua, in the eastern Department of San Miguel. This action left the area's residents without their main source of employment. Many residents have repudiated this new terrorist attack, which destroyed the plant where they worked.

Thus, the FMLN is continuing its war against the Salvadoran people, depriving them of their right to work and to live in peace and democracy, and so increasing the people's rejection of the extremists and their totalitarian ideas. The terrorists dirty war daily clashes with the will of the people, who are peacefully struggling to achieve peace and democracy.

Clash With 'Extremist Columns'

PA252056 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Communique issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA; date and place not given]

[Text] COPREFA wishes to announce that 32 terrorists died yesterday near the cantons of El Carmen, Los Chorros, and Las Delicias, in the jurisdiction of San Agustin in Usulutan, when units of the Atlacatl Rapid Deployment Infantry Battalion unexpectedly came upon and engaged extremist columns. Seven Army troops were wounded in the action.

The Atlacatl Battalion is operating alongside the peace forces that are engaged in the Welfare for Usulutan Operation.

Meanwhile, the paternalistic influence that the nine Sandinist commanders exercise over the FMLN commanders reminds one of the popular proverb that says: Like father, like son. The ridiculous announcement made by the terrorist commanders operating in El Salvador that U.S. and Central American troops would operate in Salvadoran territory within the "Big Pine III" operation is a virtual repeat of the Sandinist paranoia that had the Nicaraguan people digging trenches and antiaircraft shelters against an invasion by the Marines not long ago.

In both cases, it has been demonstrated that the apocalyptic announcements of invasions are mere despicable propaganda actions by those who are stubbornly ignoring the people's increasing rejection and who do not know how to revive their moribund image abroad. The terrorist leaders have targeted their propaganda machinery at the American people, in what amounts to disrespect for the intelligence of those people, who are increasing their support on a daily basis for their Salvadoran brothers' efforts to achieve democracy.

In short, it is a new blunder that, much as in the best families, is transmitted from father to son.

On another subject, there is no doubt that Amnesty International's informers have played a dirty trick on this respectable organization. Amnesty International Secretary General (Thomas Halnepper) has sent a telex to COPREFA from his offices in London expressing his concern over Raul Beltran, a journalist who works for Radio Nacional YSKL and a UPI correspondent who, according to Amnesty, was shot to death by the national policy during the capture of several activists belonging to the Revolutionary Workers' Movement, MOR, on 19 January 1984. As expected, the Amnesty telex has no connection with the facts, as everyone already knows that journalist Beltran and two NBC network colleagues were kidnapped and held for over 48 hours, not retained, as some media have reported, by the extremist FMLN bands in the northern part of Chalatenango Department. Amnesty International, therefore, should denounce this kidnapping and send its telexes to Managua, Mexico, and Havana, where the brave FMLN leaders have their very comfortable permanent headquarters. It would be nice if Amnesty's purposes were only as humanitarian as it claims, but history has demonstrated its prejudices against democratic governments, particularly those in Latin America, and a strange benevolence toward the totalitarian Marxist regimes.

FMLN CLAIMS NO PLAN TO SABOTAGE ELECTIONS

PA260400 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0317 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Bogota, 25 Jan (EFE) -- The guerrilla movement that is struggling against the Salvadoran Government declared in Bogota today that "it will not pick specific electoral targets for attack."

Mario Aguinada, an FMLN-FDR representative who is in Bogota to explain the situation in that Central American country to the Colombian Government, said that the guerrillas' activities have been planned for the entire year. "We don't take breaks -- between February and March, for example -- but we can state categorically that we have selected no targets for the electoral period," Aguinada said.

However, despite this statement, he added: "Maybe some bridges will fall, or some traffic may be stopped." The Salvadoran rebels' representative rejected the Kissinger report on Central America, because "it offers nothing to help solve the region's problems."

The report recommends more dollars, more weapons, and more intervention; "thus, it recommends nothing new."

Aguinada added that the only thing that the report achieved was a loss of money and effort, because it made a mockery of all who were interviewed and who, acting in good faith, answered questions that were not taken into consideration.

Aguinada also said that the Kissinger report contradicts the purpose of the "Contadora Group" and offers neither means of nor the groundwork for solving the area's problems. "The entire document reflects a single notion: U.S. security, in the belief that whatever is good for them is good for Central America," Aguinada added.

On the guerrillas' activities, its representative, who met with Colombian President Belisario Betancur for a few minutes today, said "our forces are advancing and the Salvadoran Army is deteriorating."

He said that the military forces suffered approximately 7,000 casualties in 1983, while the guerrillas had only some 300.

"We have already defeated the first army, with which the war was begun, and we are now doing the same with the second army, in which the United States is intervening with advisers and to which it offers all moral support," he explained. At the same time, he denied that the FMLN is receiving outside help.

Aguinada declared that the guerrilla force was not put together by foreign experts but by "a people who want freedom and who are fighting their oppressors."

VENCEREMOS ANNOUNCES RESUMPTION OF FM BROADCASTS

PA251841 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Attention, attention, listeners in San Salvador; attention, all San Salvador neighborhoods: In a few days Radio Venceremos will resume its FM transmissions to central El Salvador. Attention, San Salvador; attention all San Salvador neighborhoods and surrounding areas: In a few days Radio Venceremos will resume its FM transmissions. We call on our San Salvador listeners to be on the lookout for the resumption of our FM transmissions.

GUATEMALA

GOVERNMENT BLAMED FOR ABDUCTION OF DCG OFFICIAL

PA242354 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo, secretary general of the Guatemalan Christian Democracy [DCG], today blamed government troops for the kidnapping of a rural Christian Democratic leader.

Cerezo Arevalo said a group of soldiers broke into Sebastian Solis Aceituno's home, kidnapping him and his son, Domingo Solis Parajito. Solis Aceituno is the secretary general of Christian Democracy in Sacapulas in El Quiche Department. He lives in Rio Blanco, a hamlet 5 km northeast of Sacapulas.

MILITARY COMMISSIONER KILLED IN ATTACK

PA242333 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] A military commissioner was killed last night when unidentified persons opened fire on his vehicle, which exploded. The incident occurred near his home in the Ciudad Plata neighborhood in Zone 7 of Guatemala City. The military commissioner's wife was seriously wounded in the legs.

According to reports on this bloody incident, Edgar Ernesto Carlos, the military commissioner, was driving into the garage of his house, located on 14th Street between 29th and 30th Avenue of Zone 7, when he was attacked by unidentified men. His wife, Carmen Amalia Gonzalez de Carlos, was sitting beside him in the car. The military commissioner tried to defend himself with a grenade, but it exploded inside the vehicle. The vehicle destroyed by the grenade was a Colt Lancer with license plate 224620. This serious incident occurred at approximately 2100 last night. Authorities are conducting an exhaustive investigation. Mr Carlos, in addition to being a military commissioner, was the owner of the Autosexta car lot. At the time of his death he was carrying identification as a military commissioner.

NICARAGUA

HONDURAN AIR INCURSIONS, KIDNAPPING PROTESTED

PA260419 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 26 Jan 84

["Text" of "formal note" sent by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto to Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica on 25 January]

[Text] Mr Minister, I am addressing Your Excellency to report the following incidents:

At 1635 on 22 January, a silver four-engined aircraft entered Nicaragua from Honduran territory via the Las Mesas sector, 7 km southwest of Somotillo, flying over a portion of the border area and then returning to Honduran territory.

At 1000 on 24 January, a C-47 plane, also coming from Honduras, entered Nicaraguan territory, flying over the area of La Zopilota Hill, 59 km south of Siuna, in an open delivery and support mission for the Somozist mercenaries who are under siege in the area by the Sandinist Peoples Army. Afterward, the plane returned to Honduran territory.

At 1200 the same day, a group of some 70 Somozist mercenaries kidnapped 30 Nicaraguan peasants in the area of La Laguna, 3 km east of Las Manos, and took them to Honduran territory.

While lodging a formal and strong protest of these incidents, the Nicaraguan Government demands that the Honduran authorities immediately put an end to the constant violations of our national airspace and insists that there is an urgent need for the Honduran Government to renounce its policy of allowing its territory to be used as a base and refuge by Somozist mercenaries.

The Nicaraguan Government also demands that your illustrious government immediately release and return the peasants who were kidnapped.

I take this opportunity to reiterate my highest esteem to Your Excellency.

[Signed] Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, Foreign Affairs Minister

HONDURAS ASKED TO INVESTIGATE MISKITO MASSACRE

PA251849 Bluefields Radio Zinica in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Nicaragua has requested a thorough and immediate investigation by the Honduran Government of a number of statements made by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Adolfo Perez Esquivel.

The Foreign Ministry yesterday issued a communique announcing that the Nicaraguan Government had learned of a Perez Esquivel charge that on 6 January some 200 Miskitos were killed at points along the Nicaraguan-Honduran border by a Honduran military patrol as the Indians were attempting to return to Nicaragua.

These events were described as serious, and it was announced that Nicaragua has sent notes to all nongovernmental humanitarian organizations requesting their cooperation in verifying the report.

The Foreign Ministry also expressed its deep concern for the lives of Nicaraguan citizens who are in Honduran territory and wish to return to Nicaragua.

ORTEGA INTERVIEWED ON ELECTIONS PROSPECTS

PA251753 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 18 Jan 84 pp 1, 10

[Interview with Defense Minister Humberto Ortega by LA PRENSA journalist Luis Mora at the Carlos Aguero Military School in Managua: date not given]

[Text] Mora: Commander, you have stated on several occasions that power will not be raffled off in the Nicaraguan elections. However, last Saturday Commander Nunez [Carlos Nunez, president of the State Council] announced a draft electoral law that, although virtually unobjectionable, seems to represent a 360-degree turn from your stated position. Do you -- and I understand that you do -- agree with this draft? If you do, what are the reasons for the change?

Ortega: No, there has been no change. Commander Nunez has introduced some FSLN ideas on the subject, but everything must be discussed with the other parties on the State Council. We -- that is, I -- did say once that power will not be raffled off. True, it will not be. If a political group wins the elections by a majority of votes, that group will assume power and proceed to exercise it.

I personally believe that the FSLN will win the elections, not because we presently hold power, but because the Nicaraguan people support Sandinism and will vote for it. Now, if some conservative, social democratic, or Pedrito Chamorro [reference to LA PRENSA co-editor Pedro Joaquin Chamorro] party or some such should appear on the scene and be able to win the support and the votes of most Nicaraguans, well then, that party will form its government and face Nicaragua's problems.

Mora: Commander, what would happen if the people decided to vote for a coalition or for a political party, and the FSLN lost the elections? Would the FSLN relinquish power? In other words, will power be raffled off?

Ortega: Well, we shall see. Let's wait for the elections. Let us not feast on the prey if we have not yet caught it. Let's wait to see what happens. I believe, I am very confident, that the FSLN will reaffirm through its candidate the power that we assumed on 19 July 1979. We must keep in mind that the Nicaraguan elections will not be like the Costa Rican or Venezuelan elections. Costa Rican and Venezuelan elections are not identical to each other, either.

Our elections will reflect Latin America's democratic experiences and our revolution's characteristics. In this sense, we cannot expect the elections to be identical to those held in other countries. They must reflect general principles and characteristics unique to our process. I personally believe that the Saninists will win. The future will tell.

Mora: Commander, a moment ago you said that the military must vote because they are the ones that make the most sacrifices in war, and you also said a moment ago that the Sandinists could rally 300,000 Army and militia personnel, meaning that you would have a 300,000-vote margin over the democratic parties, while they have not even been allowed to move around freely. Don't you think the fact that the military will vote in such numbers -- independently of whether they have the right to vote -- is a form of unfair competition?

Ortega: Nicaraguan citizens will vote according to their consciences. The members of the Army are Nicaraguans, and in civil matters they are free to do as they see fit. We do not force them to do what they want. [sentence as published] We will not force them to go dancing in the plastic city [ciudad plastica]. In this instance they will vote according to their consciences.

Regarding our candidate, our ticket, it will be disclosed in due time. We believe that these elections will present no major problems, will bring no major changes. In a matter of speaking, they will give a more legal and juridical character to our revolution. The FSLN ticket for the elections will be disclosed in due time.

CORDOVA RIVAS EYES PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY

PA252328 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 18 Jan 84 pp 1, 10

[Text] Affirming that the 1985 elections will be "the cleanest and most honest," Dr Rafael Cordova Rivas, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has said he will not be a Conservative Party candidate, but will instead run for the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board, if asked by the opposition's coalition.

With his usual good humor, Dr Cordova Rivas told one of our reporters that "the elections will be among the cleanest and the most honest ever held in any country, but even so, the Nicaraguan opposition will surely find an objection."

Cordova Rivas was interviewed following a ceremony to present certificates to 17 health specialists, which was held last Saturday at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center. During the informal interview, he said: "I will not be a candidate for the Nicaraguan Democratic Conservative Party, because it already has its own candidate."

On several occasions Conservative Party leaders have tried to expel Cordova Rivas, a long-time party member, because of his conduct as a member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, which they consider "pro-Sandinist."

Asked if he was going to participate in the electoral campaign, Cordova Rivas said, "Yes, I have said so already."

For the Conservative Party?

Cordova Rivas answered, "No, the Conservative Party already has its own candidate."

For which party will you run?

"If the Democratic Coordinating Board nominates me, I will run as its candidate."

What are the chances of the Democratic Coordinating Board nominating you?

"For that you must ask the Democratic Coordinating Board," Cordova Rivas answered, as he walked to a car surrounded by his bodyguards.

THREE ARTICLES OF PARTIES LAW APPROVED

PA251531 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Three more articles of the Political Parties Law were approved this morning during the third extraordinary State Council session. They are as follows:

Article 15 states that political parties will submit a request in writing to the National Council of Political Parties, CNPP, and fulfill the requirements specified in Article 21 of the Political Parties Law. The request will be presented as a legal document and will be signed by the legal representatives of the requesting party.

Article 16 states that if the CNPP verifies that the request does not meet the requirements of Article 23 of the Political Parties Law, it will be returned to the group that submitted it, which will then have 15 days to meet the requirements. Thereafter, the request will be considered dropped.

Article 17 states that interested parties will have only 3 days to state their opposition. If such opposition is raised, the requesting party will be granted 3 days for a viewing of the opposition and will be provided a written copy upon request.

Article 18, which refers to the suspension and abolition of political parties, raised many questions, because it states that the CNPP can partially or totally suspend a party that violates the Political Parties Law. So far there has been no consensus, and discussion of the article will continue this afternoon.

LA PRENSA VIEWS SOLDIERS' VOTING RIGHTS

PA251527 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 18 Jan 84 pp 1, 10

[Editorial: "The Vote of the Military"]

[Text] In answer to a question by a LA PRENSA reporter on the vote of the military in the upcoming elections, Commander Carlos Nunez invited the newsmen to ask the soldiers on the border what they think of their right to vote. With that, he meant to say he who risks his life for a cause has the right to defend that cause with votes.

Yet there is still another question to follow up the reply of Commander Nunez, and that is: Are these soldiers on the border defending the fatherland and the Nicaraguan nation that covers us all with its white and blue flag, or are they defending a specific party's political plan?

If those soldiers are defending a specific political plan of the FSLN, then Commander Nunez' answer is correct, and the soldiers of the Sandinist People's Army should vote, because if the FSLN should lose the elections the revolutionary plan for which they are risking their lives would change. However, if they are defending the fatherland and the Nicaraguan nation, then whether the FSLN wins or loses the fatherland and the Nicaraguan nation would remain the same. Their struggle would not change except for the name of the Army commander in chief, who is generally the president of the Republic, and the names of the men in charge of political positions within the military institution, who are usually removed in countries where free elections are held.

INTERIOR MINISTRY DISCUSSES ENEMY PLANS

PA242031 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 19 Jan 84 pp 1, 10

[By Maria Lourdes Tercero]

[Text] Tasba Pri -- During a press conference, Deputy Commander Jose Gonzalez, Interior Ministry delegate in Special Area No 1 in Puerto Cabezas, explained the counterrevolutionaries' plans to attack Sumubila, Sanmilaya, and other Miskito communities mentioned in earlier reports.

He also said there exists a criminal plan for Rio Coco. "Counterrevolutionary and Honduran radio stations are urging families that have been relocated by the revolution to return to Rio Coco, in an effort to use thousands of poor Miskitos as cannon fodder. [quotation as published]

In turn, Captain Alvaro Herrera, the area's State Security official, submitted a report on the enemy's latest actions in the zone. These actions have been led by counterrevolutionaries Fagoth and Rivera.

Herrera pointed out that during the past 3 months the enemy has been "organizing its forces in an internal front for the purpose of seizing part of the territory of Special Zone No 1. [quotation as published],

Herrera said that these forces that are being reorganized and resupplied by air were disabled in September, adding that they use rape, abuses, and blackmail to obtain collaborators.

70 Contras in Recent Weeks

Herrera reported that many violations of Nicaraguan airspace have occurred, as well as 10 attacks on fishing craft. The airspace violations have been previously reported.

He stressed that government forces inflicted 70 casualties on the enemy last week. At year's end, 27 counterrevolutionaries were killed at Cabo Viejo near Honduras at a counterrevolutionary camp.

In addition, 14 contras were killed while the Francia Sirpe abductors were being chased.

Herrera indicated that during this operation the government did not fall for the CIA's propaganda game. "They wanted us to annihilate the people they had kidnapped, but in order to rescue them we used neither planes nor other means."

January -- 30 Contras in Waspan

In addition, Herrera reported that during the first week of January, 30 counterrevolutionaries were killed in Waspan, where these men had tried to carry out counterintelligence activities.

Two contras were killed early this week in Lapan. These men belonged to the "Caibil" task force and had murdered Nolasco Garcia, who had recently availed himself of the amnesty decree. The two men raped nine women from the Lapan community. The two were identified as Apolonio Zelaya and Bruno Gabriel.

In addition, during the press conference that the MINT [Interior Ministry] offered in Puerto Cabezas, some arms and supplies that had been seized from the contras during recent clashes and during the pursuit of the Francia Sirpe abductors were presented.

The goverument forces recovered mortars, U.S.-made grenades, counterrevolutionary propaganda using Bible quotations as support, and about 10 pounds of marijuana, as well as an 81-mm mortar, knapsacks, M-60 ammunition belts, and an M-79 grenade launcher.

The bands' leaders were identified as Alfredo Lagos, Mario Cordova, Jorge Flores, Lino Muller, and Mario Muller.

ARDE CHARGES SANDINIST DESTRUCTION OF VILLAGE

PA251325 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] The Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, charges before our people that on 18 January 1984 the occupation forces of those who today hold power in Nicaragua arrived unexpectedly in Santa Rita, Nueva Guinea jurisdiction. They were accompanied by many Cuban filibusters. In front of the flabbergasted residents of the area, they proceeded to destroy and burn the churches.

Later, not having satisfied their barbaric thirst, they proceeded to burn the homes of the poor residents. The community residents were forced to flee the area, to save the lives of the children, women, and old people from the merciless new filibusters. The people's only sin was the same as that of the majority of our people, who repudiate, reject, and refuse to accept the internationalist boot imposed by the new invaders of our stained Nicaragua.

These diabolic actions are the ones that are forcing our people to migrate to other countries, fleeing the terror imposed by the nine traitors who are giving our homeland away to Moscow and Havana.

For these reasons our forces are continuing to grow each day. Nicaraguans would rather die than become slaves. Terror, reprisals, or the deadly and sinister State Security and Interior Ministry forces will not make our people yield. Nicaraguans are ready to defend their freedom at the cost of their own lives.

Soon, very soon, ARDE forces will liberate our beloved Nicaragua from the oppressive yoke of the Marxist-Leninists and their masters, the Cuban-Soviet foreigners.

IDEOLOGICAL AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH ANGOLA

FL260042 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Leaders of the Cuban Communist Party and the MPLA [People's Liberation Movement of Angola]-Workers Party have signed an agreement in Havana in the field of ideological work. The document was signed by Antonio Perez Herrero, alternate member of the Politburo, and by (Paulino Pinto Joao), chief of the Department of Information and Propaganda of the MPLA-Workers Party.

Among other things, the document noted cooperation in technical and educational areas by cadres and teachers from the departments of political and ideological education, culture and sports, and information and propaganda at the Dr (Docina) Neto National School. Both parties will promote the strengthening of relations among the different mass broadcast media, Angola's national radio and people's television, and the ICRT [Cuban Institute of Radio and Television], as well as between the ANGOLAN PRESS AGENCY and its Cuban counterpart, and among the party organizations.

SELA SECRETARY TO VISIT, ALSO TO TOUR MEXICO

FL251610 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] SELA Permanent Secretary Sebastian Alegrette has begun a tour of Mexico and Cuba as part of an effort to strengthen relations between the regional organization and its member states.

SELA's press office announced in Caracas that Alegrett will stay in Mexico until next Sunday and that then he will visit Cuba until 1 February, when he will return to Caracas. In Mexico, Alegrett will be received by President Miguel de la Madrid and [Foreign] Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda. He will also hold meetings with government officials to study agreements adopted at the Latin American Economic Conference, held recently in Quito, Ecuador.

CORRECTION: EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS WITH ECUADOR

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Exchange of Ambassadors With Ecuador Announced," published in the 25 January Latin America DAILY REPORT, page Q 1, second paragraph, lines four and five:

...Carlos Zamora Rodriguez. Since 1981, relations between the two countries...(changing "1961" to "1981")

JESUS MONTANE CLOSES SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

FL252138 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate Politburo member and chief of the General Department of Foreign Relations of the party's Central Committee, has said that the most imperative task which the peoples of the world are currently facing is the struggle for peace. The leader made this statement in closing the 2-day International Scientific Conference, "Characteristics of the World's Revolutionary Process and the Developing Nations" which was held at the Cuban Academy of Sciences.

Montane thanked the delegations from the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, and Czechoslovakia for the solidarity shown by their participation in this event, dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the revolution. He also stated that the seventh session of the Commission on the Multilateral Problems of the Developing Nations' Economy and Politics will be held in our country for the first time. This meeting will begin today and will end on Friday. Participants will be from the academies of science of the socialist countries.

INTERNATIONAL SPARE PARTS FORUM TO OPEN 30 JAN

FL250234 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Foreign delegates from the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, and the GDR will participate in the second national forum on the recovery and manufacture of spare parts, which will take place in Havana at the Palace of Conventions from 30 January to 1 February.

There will be more than 1,000 delegates and guests. City of Havana Province will have 174 direct delegates; Villa Clara, 65; Holguin, 45; and Camaguey, Matanzas, and Havana Provinces will each have 40.

The organizing committee of the event has provided background information on the specialists from the socialist community who will be attending the conference. They will be arriving in our capital today and tomorrow.

Of the 100 observers who will attend the second national forum on the recovery and manufacture of spare parts, 18 will be from the MINBAS [Ministry of Basic Industry], 15 from SIME [Steelworking Industry], 12 from MITRANS [Ministry of Transportation], 10 each from MINAG [Ministry of Agriculture] and MICONS [Ministry of Construction], and 9 from MINAZ [Ministry of the Sugar Industry].

City of Havana Province has presented 47 projects; Villa Clara, 9; Matanzas, 7; Havana, 6; and Holguin and Sancti Spiritus, 5 each.

MOTLEY SAYS WORD OF GRENADA INVASION DELAYED

FL252200 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] A top U.S. Administration official has stated in Congress that the United States carefully postponed giving information on the Grenada invasion to Cuba and the USSR until the morning of 24 October, after the operation had already started. In denying reports that circulated broadly, Langhorne Motley, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, stated that the information was delayed to avoid Cuban and Soviet interference with the successful completion of the operation.

During a hearing before the House of Representative's Armed Forces Committee on the Grenada military intervention, Motley said that on the night of 24 October, the night before the invasion, the President issued orders to proceed with the U.S. participation, after informing the United Kingdom and Congress. Motley added: Our concern for the security of our citizens and the success of the operation stopped us from informing the Organization of American States, the United Nations, and our European allies.

This statement by Motley, made before Congress, confirms charges made by our commander in chief, who said that the attack by the U.S. troops was a surprise move made without previous announcement. The chain of lies told by U.S. imperialists to justify their invasion of the Caribbean island is being gradually destroyed.

Today, 3 months after the shameless Grenada invasion, President Ronald Reagan's administration is showing that it will not think twice before violating norms of international law and that in order to accomplish its objectives, it is willing to resort to military force. U.S. security forces are still patrolling the island and are in control of security. The United States thus shows that it will continue to implement the Big Stick policy.

SURINAME'S BOUTERSE TO FORM NEW CABINET

FL252046 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Top Surinamese leader Lieutenant Colonel Desi Bouterse has announced that a new cabinet will be formed on Friday. The SURINAME NEWS AGENCY [SNA] has disclosed that the new administration will only have eight or nine members, who will be in charge of regulating the economy and industrial relations over the next 4 to 6 months. This period, he adds, will permit the preparation of a new executive body, in consultation with trade unions, trade associations, and the 25th of February Movement, whose program will establish the guidelines to be followed by the Surinamese Administration.

The previous Surinamese Cabinet was in power for 10 months and resigned on 8 January as a result of errors that aggravated the bauxite workers' strikes, which were suspended on Monday, SNA stated.

FMLN SAYS U.S. READY TO INTERVENE IN EL SALVADOR

FL251345 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1205 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] The United States is getting ready to intervene in El Salvador, hiding itself behind the upcoming "Big Pine III" military maneuvers, which include the participation of the Honduran, Guatemalan, and Salvadoran Armies.

A charge made by the FMLN over Radio Venceremos explained that these war exercises will be conducted in (Trifinio), where the three Central American countries converge. The advances of the Salvadoran revolutionary forces have prompted a change: to carry out these maneuvers in southern Honduras and disembark U.S. troops in the Gulf of Fonseca, the rebel report added.

The danger of the invasion, the document noted, increased after the Kissinger commission visited the area. The commission's report is an authentic war plan that goes against the Contadora Group's peace efforts, it concluded.

BROAD-BASED GOVERNMENT PROPOSED FOR EL SALVADOR

FL252009 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] The FMLN today proposed the installation of a broad-based government in El Salvador, representative of the people; a purge within the Armed Forces; and the elimination of repressive organizations. It also called for the creation of a single army and the necessary social and economic changes needed to hold true democratic elections in the country. Regarding this, an FMLN proposal for a negotiated solution noted that it is up to Washington to decide.

Many U.S. citizens will undoubtedly die in this land, causing grief to many American families,despite the fact that the FMLN has been proposing just solutions to the conflict for the past 3 years. But these solutions have always been boycotted by the Reagan administration, the FMLN said.

SALVADORAN FDR'S UNGO MAKES STATEMENT IN MEXICO

PA251650 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] The Salvadoran Army is incapable of defeating the guerrillas, and there is a good chance it may end up being the loser, said Salvadoran FDR President Guillermo Ungo in Mexico City. The FDR leader noted that the United States is currently faced with the alternative of either becoming fully involved in El Salvador or changing its policy toward that country.

Ungo pointed out that the possibility of a U.S. invasion of El Salvador cannot be ruled out, and warned that the extension of the military maneuvers in the area imply the permanent presence of U.S. troops, always ready to intervene.

The revolutionary leader said that the electoral process manufactured by the United States that is underway in El Salvador is a false legitimization aimed at permitting the government of President Ronald Reagan greater military involvement in the area. In no way, he added, can the elections staged by Washington replace the necessary negotiations between the parties in conflict, as was recently expressed by the San Salvador auxiliary bishop, Monsignor Gregorio Rosas Chavez.

SALVADORAN REBELS ATTACK ARMY UNITS IN JOCORO

PA242024 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Salvadoran guerrillas have attacked several Army units near Jocoro in Morazan Department. The rebels inflicted several casualties on the Morazan and Lenca Battalions, as well as on a National Guard battalion.

Other guerrilla groups occupied Moncagua and Quelepa in San Miguel Department. Rebels also destroyed the San Luis coffee-processing facilities owned by the oligarchic Prieto family. A prisoner and 11 firearms were seized during the operation.

Planes belonging to the Salvadoran dictatorship bombed presumed guerrilla positions in Morazan Department, while an Army counterinsurgency operation, with some 5,000 participants, continued unsuccessfully in Usulutan.

It was officially reported that the so-called Cazadores Battalions will henceforth be called Antiterrorist Infantry Battalions, in keeping with the reorganization occurring in the Army.

GUATEMALAN COUP RUMORS, REBEL ACTIONS REPORTED

PA250012 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Amid insistent rumors about a new coup d'etat in Guatemala, forces of the regime of General Oscar Mejia Victores killed 14 persons, wounded 8, and kidnapped 16 others during the week of 12 to 19 January.

The persistent rumors of a possible coup d'etat gained strength with the statement made by General Hector Lopez Fuentes, former Army chief of staff and current Guatemalan ambassador to Italy, that the regimes of Efrain Rios Montt and Oscar Mejia Victores were incapable of solving the country's problems.

Other press reports indicate that several political circles demanded that the Guatemalan Government dissolve the so-called civil defense patrols before the elections for the Constituent Assembly scheduled for this coming July.

The Guatemalan Bar Association charged that the electoral law promulgated by the military regime contradicts democratic principles and regulates matters that should be determined by the Constituent Assembly.

The Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms stated in a communique that it had staged simultaneous attacks on 7 urban military posts on 16 January and killed 17 policemen in 2 ambushes.

Troops Mobilized to Border

FL251343 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1205 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] The Guatemalan regime has deployed troops to the border with El Salvador and Honduras, where Salvadoran and Honduran troops have also been sent.

According to reports from Guatemala City, Colonel Luis Alberto Paredes, commander of the Chiquimula military region, the affected area, said that the troops are tasked with vigilance missions and that he is in constant contact with Honduran and Salvadoran forces. Paredes did not disclose the date on which the troop mobilization will begin, when it will end, or the number of soldiers involved.

Meanwhile, ENFOPRENSA noted that according to opposition forces this deployment of troops could be a joint operation by the three armies, as agreed upon within the framework of the Central American Defense Council.

NICARAGUA SENDS PROTEST NOTES TO HONDURAS

Protests Peasant Kidnappings

PA251637 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has sent a note to the Honduran foreign secretariat protesting the kidnapping of 30 Nicaraguan peasants on 16 January by a group of 70 counterrevolutionaries who entered Nicaragua from Honduras. The peasants were taken to the former Somozist guardsmen's camp at (Las Dificultades) farm, from where one of the captives, Santos Facundo Sanchez, later escaped and returned to Nicaragua.

In his note to Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica, Miguel D'Escoto insisted that the Tegucigalpa regime must put an end to its policy of allowing the use of its national territory as a base and refuge of the Somozist mercenaries. The note also demanded the immediate release and return to Nicaragua of the kidnapped peasants.

Demands Investigation

FL251400 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1245 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Managua -- Nicaragua has demanded that Honduras investigate a charge on the killing of 200 Miskitos who were trying to return to the country from Honduras. The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry issued notes addressed to Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica and to the public expressing concern for the lives of Nicaraguan citizens in Honduras.

Nobel Peace Prize winner Adolfo Perez Esquivel recently charged in Madrid that 200 Nicaraguan Miskitos were murdered by a Honduran military patrol on the border on 6 January. The Nicaraguan Government demanded a thorough and urgent investigation to confirm the charge, and requested information on the results and the measures to be applied to those responsible for the genocide.

ORTEGA LAUDS NICARAGUA'S ECONOMIC GROWTH

PA250017 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, stressed in Managua that the 5 percent economic growth rate in 1983 was possible due to the people's great effort and the solidarity of other countries. Without the support of several Western European countries, the Socialist community, and Latin America, this economic growth rate would not have been possible, he noted.

The Nicaraguan leader stressed that the permanent threats of aggression by the United States prevent the country from marching normally on the path of economic development.

ORTEGA BRUSHES ASIDE DISPUTE WITH COLOMBIA

PA251759 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has said in Managua that territorial problems should not be of primary concern to the Latin American nations at this moment. The main efforts of the rulers of the area, he noted, should be aimed at solving economic problems.

Ortega made this statement during the "Face the People" program in answer to questions from a Colombian correspondent referring to a document published in Managua which included the Providence and San Andres islands, in the Caribbean Sea, as part of the Nicaraguan Department of Zelaya. These islands passed over to Colombian jurisdiction through a treaty signed in 1928, when Nicaragua was invaded by U.S. troops. The Sandinist government, however, has insistently denied the legitimacy of the pact, since it was imposed on Nicaragua by the United States.

On the same radio program, Daniel Ortega said that the 5 percent growth registered in the Nicaraguan economy in 1983 was possible due to the great national effort and the solidarity of other nations.

U.S. CITIZENS IN NICARAGUA PROTEST U.S. ACTIONS

FL252131 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] U.S. citizens, demanding peace for Central America and protesting U.S. military intervention in the region, have staged a demonstration in front of the U.S. Embassy in Nicaragua. The demonstrators sent a protest note to President Reagan, censoring the open U.S. interference in Nicaraguan affairs.

Those who signed the statement stressed that after visiting areas on the border with Honduras, they became convinced of the systematic aggressive actions carried out by the enemies of the Sandinist revolution who kidnap and kill Nicaraguan peasants. The authors of the document noted that they do not want to be part of the military apparatus which the Reagan administration is preparing against peace and humankind. They added that the United States has no right to impose its will on the Nicaraguans or on any other peoples.

FURTHER ON FISHERY, BANK WORKERS STRIKE IN PERU

PA250015 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] The announced indefinite strike of 6,000 Pescaperu State Enterprise workers began this Tuesday, while the strike by approximately 30,000 bank workers continued for the 3d consecutive day.

The fishery workers are protesting 2 decrees which seek to dismiss 4,000 workers who are demanding that funds be allocated to the state enterprise. The bank workers, who plan to march through the main streets of Lima, are demanding the fulfillment of collective work contracts. The bank workers' strike was preceded by partial strikes and other mobilizations.

SHINING PATH DETONATES 15 BOMBS IN PERU

PY252333 Paris AFP in Spanish 1631 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Lima, 25 Jan (AFP) -- Shining Path terrorists this morning detonated approximately 15 bombs in four districts of Lima. The police captures two extremists and seized an automobile left by the terrorists after the attacks. The explosions occurred at approximately 0630 local time (1130 GMT). The most powerful ones occurred at the Directorate for Penal Institutions, where some facilities and two automobiles were destroyed.

PERUVIAN MAYOR ARRESTED ON 'FALSE CHARGES'

PA251538 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] A bridge was dynamited in the village of (Cobriza), Junin Department, isolating the region from the rest of Peru.

Reports from Puno state that authorities have arrested Puno Mayor Jamie Ardiles on trumped-up charges. Local residents have reacted violently, stating that if Ardiles is not released a general strike will be held until he is freed from prison. Ardiles was elected by popular vote in the recently held municipal elections as a candidate of the Unified Left Coalition. He was arrested on false charges made by a local newspaper, but Puno residents are aware that these are false and that the whole thing is a political scheme.

CHILEAN MIR REPORTS MEMBERS DETAINED IN PERU

PA251750 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] The Chilean Movement of the Revolutionary Left, MIR, has sent a message to Peruvian democratic and popular forces and to the international public, reporting the arrest in the Peruvian community of Chiclayo of two members of the Chilean resistance, and urging that efforts be made to obtain the safety and release of the two prisoners.

The message, signed by MIR Secretary General Andres Pascal Allende, said that two militants of the movement, Jose Araya Tapia and Isidro Andres Planas, were detained in Chiclayo while engaging in activities supporting the struggles of the Chilean people. Planas was arrested at his home in Chiclayo. The document emphasized that the right to rebel against a bloody dictatorship like that of Pinochet's has been internationally accepted as a legitimate means of struggle of oppressed peoples, and noted that the solidarity of the sister nations of the southern cone will play a decisive role in the difficult struggle of the Chilean people. The MIR also called on the democratic and popular forces of Peru and all those supporting the Chilean people's efforts to build a higher social order, and urged them to rally for the release of Jose Araya Tapia and Isidro Andres Planas and their deportation to some democratic country willing to receive them.

BRIEFS

BOOK ON GRENADA -- Starting 28 January, the book "Grenada, the World Against the Crime," will be circulating in the capitals of the 14 Cuban provinces. The book was published in Havana by the Social Sciences Publishing House of the Culture Ministry. Its objective is to make known the truth of what occurred in Grenada, the position of the Cuban people and government, the repercussions of this event in the world, the 19 lies told by President Reagan, the communiques of the Cuban Government, and Fidel and Raul Castro's speeches in this regard. [Summary] [Havana International Service in Spanish 15 Jan 84 PA]

PRESIDENT ORDERS RELEASE OF HAITIAN EXILES

PA250337 Paris AFP in Spanish 2121 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Santo Domingo, 24 Jan (AFP) -- Dominican President Salvador Jorge Blanco today ordered the release of 12 Haitian exiles who were arrested by police. At the same time the Foreign Ministry described as "baseless" the request for asylum by six other Haitians in the Venezuelan Embassy in Santo Domingo.

Colonel Jose Rijo, official spokesman for the Dominican police, confirmed to AFP that all those arrested were released this morning "by decision of the president of the Republic."

According to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), among the 12 was Jean Wilmer Claude, brother of Sylvio Claude, president of the Haitian Christian Democratic Party (PDCH) and well-known opponent of lifetime President Jean-Claude Duvalier.

Dominican Foreign Secretary Jose Augusto Vega Imbert said today that the request for asylum made by six exiles at the Venezuelan Embassy in Santo Domingo was "baseless." The group based its request on the fact that they were "the object of political persecution by the national police," their statement said.

Vega Imbert said the country "has a legal system offering full guarantees to local citizens and foreigners alike," but conceded that "in the last few days some investigations have been carried out, according to the law, regarding charges of activities by Haitian exiles to determine whether these are compatible with their status as foreigners and exiles according to the international agreements now in force."

The case of the exiles is being dealt with on a "government-to-government basis," said UNHCR spokesmen.

The so-called Union of Haitian Patriotic and Democratic Forces [IFOPADA] reported to a local newspaper today "a wave of persecutions by the Dominican police against the anti-Duvalier Haitian exiles." The statement said that in Haitian exile circles in New York "there is open comment about an anti-Duvalier action (foreign invasion or internal uprising) that is imminent in the next few days" and interpreted the local police procedures as an operation in "solidarity with the Duvalier dictatorship."

GRENADA

CHANGES IN INTERIM GOVERNMENT PORTFOLIOS

FL252312 Bridgetown CANA in English 2014 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Jan 25 (CANA) -- University of the West Indies research fellow Dr Pat Emmanuel is expected to be shifted from his foreign affairs portfolio in Grenada's two-month-old interim government in a reshuffle to be announced next month, well informed sources here said today. Dr Emmanuel, who is barred from entering at least two member countries of the 13-nation Caribbean Community (Caricom), is being replaced by the head of the interim government, Nicholas Brathwaite. Dr Emmanuel, the sources said, would become the interim government's spokesman on education and civil aviation. Brathwaite, in addition to overseeing the foreign affairs portfolio, would also take charge of information, security, and electoral affairs.

Last week Brathwaite told the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY that certain changes would be made within the interim government because of the unavailability of Grenadian economist Alister McIntyre to take up the job of head of the new Grenada Goverment. According to the sources, most of the other members of the interim administration would remain with their portfolios first announced by Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon last November.

Other changes involve the allocation of the finance portfolio to Deputy Chairman of the interim government Dr Allan Kirton. It is now held by the director general of government finances, Lauriston Wilson, who is to return to his old job of permanent secretary in the Ministry of Finance, Trade, and Planning. Dr Kirton, a former permanent secretary in the Jamaica Government until his appointment with the new Grenada Government, is also expected to retain the position of looking after the Secretariat of the interim government. The former manager of the now defunct Windward Islands Broadcasting Service (WIBS), Ray Smith, who was relieved of the information portfolio by Brathwaite last month, would now serve the government as its spokesman on telecommunications and health.

POLL TAKEN ON SUPPORT FOR INTERVENTION, TRIALS

FL251307 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] A recent poll shows that a great majority of Grenadians supported the intervention by the United States and six Caribbean nations last October. The poll, published by the (?BARBADOS DAILY MAIL), said 86 percent of the 711 people polled supported the action by the multilateral force. Thirty percent of the group polled said the members of the Revolutionary Military Council, responsible for the death of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, should be tried by a special court. Seventeen percent said trial by a regular court would be sufficient, while 10 percent said they should be turned over to the people for summary justice.

JAMAICA

PRIME MINISTER SEAGA OUTLINES NEW MONETARY MEASURES

FL251419 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Several new monetary measures aimed at improving the country's balance of payments and checking inflation were outlined in the ministry paper cable in Parliament yesterday on behalf of the minister of finance, Prime Minister Edward Seaga.

The measures include an incentive for savers, as the interest rate on savings applied in the commercial banks will be increased from 9 percent to 11 percent. The bank rate will be increased from 11 percent to 13 percent. And, the maximum lending rate of building societies will be increased from 14 percent to 16 percent, thus enabling these institutions to adjust their deposit rates so as to maintain their competitive position with the commercial banks. Under the new measures, starting from this month, commercial banks as a group and individually may not increase credit to the private sector by more than 12-percent annually. The ministry paper noted that the feeling on availability of credit for the productive sector should induce that sector to repatriate to Jamaica some of the funds being held abroad, including a faster repatriation of export proceeds.

Under the new regime, banks will no longer be allowed to include the so-called foreign currency float as part of their liquid asset ratio. This change is viewed as being beneficial in two areas. Firstly, it should clear some of the excess liquidity within the banking system, thus ensuring adherence to the ceiling of private sector credit; and secondly, discouraging the commercial banks from holding unduly large foreign currency balances, thus relieving some of the pressure from the exchange rate.

A deposit scheme will be introduced under which all bonafide requests for due foreign exchange payments of commercial banks and the BOJ [Bank of Jamaica] must be accompanied by a local currency equivalent, at the prevailing exchange rate. Details of this scheme, which is designed to monitor the level of unsatisfied demand for foreign exchange, will be published by the BOJ.

ST LUCIA

COMPTON HOLDS NEWS CONFERENCE AFTER ASIA TRIP

Raps Gairy's Return

FL251736 Bridgetown CANA in English 1535 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Jan 25 (CANA) -- Prime Minister John Compton says that he views the return of deposed Prime Minister Eric Gairy to Grenada's political life with a great deal of disappointment and apprehension. He told a press conference here he hoped that the Grenada people have learnt their lesson, taught by Gairy and Maurice Bishop, whose New Jewel Movement (NJM) toppled Gairy's government in a coup in 1979, and was itself unseated by a military coup last October. "I have always said that it is Mr Gairy's excesses that created Mr Bishop, because when Bishop moved against Gairy, the Gairy regime was not worth defending," Compton said.

Gairy, who had been living in the U.S. since 1979, returned home last Saturday. His party, the Grenada United Labour Party (GULP), is now preparing for elections in the aftermath of a U.S.-led invasion that toppled the military junta.

Compton said that "not a Grenadian threw a stone to defend him (Gairy), but it means that he has come back to his country, and I could not stop him from coming back." However, Compton said that the Grenadian people would have to learn from the lessons of the past, adding that he hoped to see them back into the mainstream of political life and political thought within the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), and that the extremes of Gairy and Bishop would no longer become part of their life.

The prime minister, who was in the forefront of the OECS initiative to intervene in Grenada, said that the Caribbean forces certainly did not take the action to restore Mr Gairy.

Discusses Results of Trip

FL251939 Bridgetown CANA in English 1557 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Jan 25 (CANA) -- Prime Minister John Compton has returned home after visits to South Korea, Taiwan, and Hong Kong, saying he had landed contracts for the establishment of two more garment factories here and a 2-million-dollar (U.S.) line of credit.

He told a news conference St Lucia signed an agreement with Taiwan for technical assistance in the fields of fisheries, agriculture, and horticulture, and financial assistance with a line of credit of two million dollars (U.S.) initially. This is to enable St Lucia to start up its trade with Taiwan, Compton said.

Compton said that two top officials of Tatoon, one of the biggest electronic firms in the world, are due here at month-end to discuss the possibilities of setting up a number of industries.

"In addition, we signed an agreement with a garment manufacturing company to set up in May this year a plant employing 150 people initially in the southern town of Vieux Fort," he said. He said that in three years the company would employ 1,500 people. Compton said that another firm would start employing 200 workers at the same time, but will be producing specialised garments and would need to train St Lucians to take over after a three-year period.

"If we make a success of those (investors) who come early, others will follow because with the uncertainty that is hanging over Hong Kong at present, whether by 1997 when the lease expires the Chinese communists will take over, the people are very uncertain," he said. Although investment was continuing there, business interests were "looking over their shoulders for other places," he added.

To Bring Up Asia at OECS

FL251753 Bridgetown CANA in English 1540 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Jan 25 (CANA) -- The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) will be asked to consider taking advantage of the industrialisation potential of the Far East when its seven heads of government hold their first summit for the year, Prime Minister John Compton has said. He told reporters he will try to get the other six governments to agree to establishing a presence in the Far East. Prime Minister Compton has just completed an eight-day visit to South Korea, the Republic of China (Taiwan), and Hong Kong.

He said that the OECS states needed to take advantage of the potential of these industrialised countries, which he said have a great deal to offer the region. "The focus of industrial attention has moved from Europe and North America into the Far East. We need to look at their experience, as they are countries which started at the same time as us and see how we can profit from them," Compton said. He said that St Lucia, like the other OECS member states, was much too poor to go alone, as the exercise is too costly.

Compton added: "It is vital for us to have a presence there, as we cannot sit down as little dots, which can hardly be found on the map, and expect people to come looking for us. We have to show them where we are, and make them interested in us, and this is the case I will put to the OECS heads."

No date has been fixed for the heads of government summit of the OECS. The Secretariat today announced that a meeting of officials is planned for next month to decide on a date and an agenda for the conference.

ECUADOR

AMBASSADOR-LEVEL RELATIONS WITH CUBA RESUMED

PA251719 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] The Ecuadoran and Cuban Governments have agreed to reinstate diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level. To date, relations have been at the charge d'affaires level.

An official Foreign Ministry communique says that economist Eduardo Santos Alvite has been appointed Ecuadoran ambassador in Havana, while the Cuban Government has appointed Carlos Zamora as its ambassador in Quito. Zamora will visit our country soon to begin his diplomatic mission.

A few months [as heard] ago, following an incident at the Ecuadoran Embassy the Ecuadoran Government decided to limit diplomatic relations with Cuba to the charge d'affaires level.

PERU

ALVA: 'NOTHING TO HIDE' ON RIGHTS QUESTION

PY251625 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Recorded interview with Second Vice President Javier Alva Orlandini by an unidentified reporter -- date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [Reporter] Dr Alva Orlandini, members of the International Red Cross are visiting our country to, as they say, confirm alleged violations of human rights. Human rights are reportedly being violated in our country. What is your opinion on this issue?

[Alva] The International Red Cross has all our guarantees to carry out an open investigation, as they have scheduled. The members of this commission must rest assured that the Peruvian Government has nothing to hide, and that they may travel freely through Ayacucho Department or anywhere else in the country in order to investigate anything related to the possible violation of human rights.

SURINAME

BOUTERSE REPORTEDLY NAMES MORE CENTRIST CABINET

FL251233 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Military commander Desi Bouterse has reportedly named a new cabinet to replace the one he dismissed two weeks ago during a nation-wide labor crisis. Diplomatic observers say the new 12-man cabinet appears to be more to the center than the previous left-leaning group headed by Earl Alibux.

Colonel Bouterse successfully weathered calls for his resignation by 5,500 bauxite workers, most of whom are back at work after a 5-week strike.